

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for compressing bulk goods into a bale, in view of packing it bale-shaped on a pallet, comprising an upright, tubular shaft having an upper end and a lower end, a supplier adapted for supplying bulk goods to a feed opening in the shaft, a support placed below the lower end and adapted for supporting the bulk goods in the shaft, a press adapted for pressing the bulk goods present in the shaft downwards in order to compress said material into a bale, wherein the support comprises a pressing table, having a mover adapted for moving the pressing table between a position in which the bale is supported below the shaft and a position in which the bale is supported spaced sideways from the shaft, wherein the device is furthermore provided with a mechanism adapted for keeping a pallet below the shaft, in a position below the pressing table, and with a discharger adapted for discharging the pallet including the bale away from them.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the mover is furthermore adapted for supplying the pallet to a position below the shaft and below the pressing table.

3. The device according to claim 2, wherein the pressing table comprises a pressing plate and below the pressing plate a receiving space for the pallet.

4. The device according to claim 3, wherein the support is situated below the path of movement of the pressing table for supporting the pallet while it is being supplied.

5. The device according to claim 2, wherein the discharger comprises a conveyor for movably supporting the pallet in the position below the shaft and for discharging it.

6. The Device according to claim 1, wherein the mover comprises at least one piston/cylinder assembly, of which one end is fixed and the other end is attached to the pressing table.

7. The device according to claim 6, wherein the mover comprises two piston/cylinder assemblies, which are placed on either side of the path of movement of the pallets.

8. The device according to claim 2, wherein the pressing table is provided with a catch that can be brought in and out of engagement with the pallet for taking it along in the move of the pressing table.

9. The device according to claim 1, furthermore provided with means for packing the bale, wherein the means for packing the bale are adapted for wrapping the bale, wherein the device is furthermore provided with means for lifting the shaft during wrapping the bale.

10. A method for compressing bulk goods into a bale and the packing of said bale on a pallet, wherein the bulk goods are introduced into a shaft provided with a circumferential wall and an open lower end, wherein below the shaft lower end a pressing plate is positioned, and a pallet is positioned underneath the pressing plate, wherein within the shaft a pressing stamp is pressed downwards to press the bulk goods downwards against the pressing plate in order to in cooperation with the circumferential wall of the shaft compress the bulk goods into a bale, wherein after pressing the pressing table is removed but the pallet is left and the bale is enveloped with a covering.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the covering is arranged in situ after removal of the pressing table.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein prior to filling the shaft at the lower end of the shaft a bottom of a covering to be made for the bale is held on the pressing plate, and the rest of the covering is arranged and sealed around the bale

positioned on the pallet after removal of the pressing plate.

13. The method according to claim 10, wherein after pressing the pressing stamp is retained, in contact with the bale, the pressing plate is removed but the pallet is left, the bale is allowed to expand downwards until in supportive contact with the bottom of the covering and/or the pallet, after which optionally a covering is arranged.

14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the covering is arranged during lifting the shaft, by unrolling covering material around the bale from the lower end.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the pressing stamp is kept substantially at the same level during lifting the shaft.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein after enveloping the bale a part of the covering that extends beyond the upper end of the bale and below the lower end of the lifted shaft is laced up, is sealed at two spaced apart locations and is severed between those two sealing locations.

17. The method according to claim 10, wherein the pressing plate is supplied together with a pallet to below the lower end of the shaft.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein when removing the pressing plate it is transported back to the pallet discharge, where a next pallet is received below the pressing plate and subsequently the pressing plate including pallet is moved again to below the lower end of the shaft.

19. The method according to claim 10, wherein the covering is made by wrapping the bale with a web of foil material from a roll.